1 BEFORE A HEARING OFFICER 2 OF THE SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA 3 IN THE MATTER OF A MEMBER 4 OF THE STATE BAR OF ARIZONA, 5 No. 07-1611, 07-1657, 07-1683

HEARING OFFICER OF THE SUPREME COURT OF ARIZON

NOV 26 2008

CHESTER R. LOCKWOOD, Bar No. 003348

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

07-1703, 07-2082, 08-0363

HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT

RESPONDENT.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Complaint was filed on March 25, 2008. Respondent filed an Answer on May 2, 2008. Amendments to the pleadings followed. The parties filed a Tender of Admissions and Agreement for Discipline by Consent and Joint Memorandum on November 4, 2008. Respondent filed a Supplemental Memorandum on November 6, 2008. A hearing was held on November 6, 2008.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- At all times relevant, Respondent was an attorney licensed to 1. practice law, having been admitted to practice in Arizona on April 28, 1973.
- 2. Respondent agrees to accept a ninety day suspension and be placed on probation for a period of two years for conduct involving delays in the refund of unearned fees, poor communication and lack of diligence.

3. Restitution is not an issue in this case because Respondent took remedial measures to refund unearned fees.

4. Respondent's conduct violated Rule 42, Rules of the Supreme Court, specifically ER 1.3, 1.4, 1.5(b), 1.7(a)(2), 3.2(b), 3.4(c), 1.15(d), 1.16(d), 5.3, 5.5, 8.4(d) and Rule 53(f), Rules of the Supreme Court, which Respondent conditionally admits.

ABA STANDARDS

The ABA *Standards* list the following factors to consider in imposing the appropriate sanction: (1) the duty violated, (2) the lawyer's mental state, (3) the actual or potential injury caused by the lawyer's misconduct, and (4) the existence of aggravating or mitigating circumstances. ABA *Standard* 3.0; *In re Peasley*, 208 Ariz. 27, 90 P.3d 764 (2004).

RECOMMENDATION

The purpose of lawyer discipline is not to punish the lawyer, but to protect the public and deter future misconduct. *In re Fioramonti*, 176 Ariz. 182, 187, 859 P.2d 1315, 1320 (1993). It is also the objective of lawyer discipline to protect the public, the profession and the administration of justice. *In re Neville*, 147 Ariz. 106, 708 P.2d 1297 (1985). Yet another purpose is to instill public confidence in the bar's integrity. *Matter of Horwitz*, 180 Ariz. 20, 29, 881 P.2d 352, 361 (1994).

Upon consideration of the Joint Memorandum, the Respondent's 1 2 Supplemental Memorandum and the testimony and arguments at the hearing on 3 the matter, acceptance of the Tender of Admissions and Agreement for Discipline 4 by Consent is recommended. It is recommended Respondent be placed on 5 6 suspension for 90 days and probation for 2 years. The terms of the probation 7 should be as set forth in the Joint Memorandum. 8 DATED this 25th day of November, 2008. 9 10 11 12 13 Original filed with the Disciplinary Clerk 14 this 26 day of November, 2008. 15 Copy of the foregoing mailed this <u>ash</u> day of <u>November</u>, 2008, to: 16 17 David P. Stoller 18 Respondent's Counsel P.O. Box 13122 19 Prescott, AZ 86304 20 Stephen Little 21 Bar Counsel State Bar of Arizona 22 4201 North 24th Street, Suite 200 23 Phoenix, AZ 85016-6288

24

25

Kolont J. Stephen, Jr./MM Robert J. Stephen, Jr.

Hearing Officer 9R